



STATE OF UTAH
NATURAL RESOURCES
Oil, Gas & Mining

mine file

Norman H. Bangerter, Governor
Dee C. Hansen, Executive Director
Dianne R. Nielson, Ph.D., Division Director

355 W. North Temple • 3 Triad Center • Suite 350 • Salt Lake City, UT 84180-1203 • 801-538-5340

October 7, 1987

Mr. Thomas G. Wardell
Chairman
Uintah County Commission
County Building
152 East 100 North
Vernal, Utah 84078

Dear Mr. Wardell:

Re: The Asphalt Ridge Mine, ACT/047/022, Uintah County, Utah

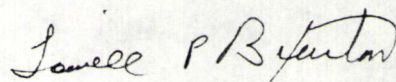
I have reviewed your letter of August 28, 1987, indicating Uintah County's inability to complete the permit application for the above captioned mine prior to mid 1988. With respect to this time frame I must affirm the Division's position that operating a mine without a permit is a violation of the Utah Mined Land Reclamation Act Title 40-8. On this basis I encourage Uintah County to reconsider its priorities with respect to permit acquisition for the Asphalt Ridge Mine, and if possible, submit a Reclamation Plan no later than December 1, 1987.

I appreciate your position of conflicting priorities, but I lack the authority to waive the State's permitting requirements for your operation. Please feel free to discuss this with me further if you feel a December permit acquisition will not be mutually beneficial.

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Please feel free to contact Mr. Frank Jensen of my staff if resolution of specific technical permit questions is required.

Sincerely,



Lowell P. Braxton
Administrator
Mineral Resource Development
and Reclamation Program

clj
cc: K. May
F. Filas
F. Jensen
D. Wham
1253R/4